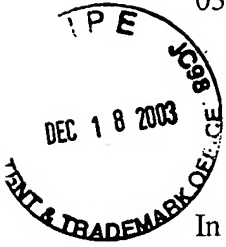


03500.017674

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Taro IKEDA, et al.) Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/687,813) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: October 20, 2003)
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS) December 18, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent document listed on the enclosed citation Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed patent document is also enclosed.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Application:

| <u>APPLICATION NO.</u> | <u>FILING DATE</u> | <u>GROUP ART UNIT</u> | <u>STATUS</u> | <u>APPLICANT</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 10/687,815 | 10/20/2003 | Unassigned | Pending | Ikeda, et al. |

For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the cited Application also is enclosed.

STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the application. Accordingly, Applicant submits that no Statement, Petition, or Fee is necessitated by the filing of this paper. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

REMARKS

Japanese Patent Document No. 2000-147900 is discussed at least at page 2, line 25 through page 3, line 5 of the specification.

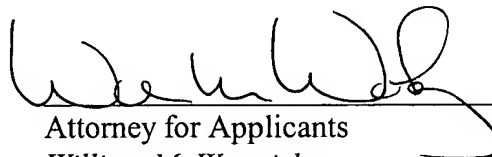
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Wannisky', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Attorney for Applicants
William M. Wannisky
Registration No. 28,373

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30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017674 | | APPLICATION NO. 10/687,813 | |
| Submitted to the PTO: December 18, 2003 | | | APPLICANT Taro IKEDA, t al. | | | |
| FILING DATE October 20, 2003 | | | GROUP Unassigned | | | |

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 TRADEMARK OFFICE

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------|------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|--|
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT | | |
| 2000-147900 | 05/26/00 | Japan | | | Abstract | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.